

WGST 436b/ HSHM 446b/ HIST 445b
THE WOMEN=S HEALTH MOVEMENT IN THE 1970s
Naomi Rogers, Women=s and Gender Studies Program
and Section of the History of Medicine
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Spring 2003
Th 1.30-3.20

This seminar will examine the strengths, weaknesses and legacy of the American women=s health movement of the 1970s, placed in its social and political context. Topics will include struggles to legalize birth control and abortion; protests over the dangers of the pill, sterilization abuse, medicalized childbirth, domestic violence, pornography, and sex-segregated medical training; and efforts to create an alternative feminist health care system. We will also explore links between feminist health activism and the civil rights, welfare rights and gay liberation movements.

Required readings:

- * Susan Brownmiller In Our Time: Memoir of a Revolution (Random House/ Dial)
- * Barbara Ehrenreich and Deirdre English Witches, Midwives, and Nurses: A History of Women Healers (Feminist Press)
- * Sandra Morgen Into Our Own Hands: The Women=s Health Movement in the United States, 1969-1990 (Rutgers)
- * Readings packet at York Copy Center

Recommended background readings:

Flora Davis Moving the Mountain: The Women=s Movement in America Since 1960
(University of Illinois)

Ruth Rosen The World Split Open: How the Modern Women=s Movement Changed America (Penguin)

Books are available at Book Haven and are on reserve at CCL

Requirements:

- 15% Short paper (5 pp) due Wednesday Feb 5 by 5 pm
- 20% Short paper (6-7 pp) due Wednesday Feb 26 by 5 pm
- 45% Research paper (15-20 pp) due Friday May 2 by 5 pm
- 20% Class participation

WEEK 1

Jan 16 Introduction: AI Am Woman, Hear Me Roar@

Handouts

Photographs (1951-1959)
AWives and Lovers@ (1964)
AI=m Gonna to be an Engineer@ (1970)
AI Am Woman, Hear Me Roar@ (1972)
AThe Pill@ (1975)
Robin Morgan ABarbarous Rituals@ (1970)
Florence Haseltine Woman Doctor (1976) extract
Gloria Steinem AIf Men Could Menstruate@ (1978)
Gary Trudeau Doonsbury (extracts)
AWomen=s Liberation is Witchcraft!!!@ (2002)

WEEK 2

Jan 23 We Are Furious (Female)

Helen Gurley Brown (1967) in PACKET
Robin Morgan AWITCH@ (1969) in PACKET
Ellen Cantarow, et al AI am Furious (Female) (1969) in PACKET
Frances Beale ADouble Jeopardy: To Be Black and Female@ (1970) in PACKET
Laura Lederer AWomen Have Seized the Executive Offices of Grove Press Because...@
(1970, 1980) in PACKET
Vivian Gornick AOn the Progress of Feminism@ (1970) in PACKET
Margaret Shook AComplaint@ (1972) in PACKET
Brownmiller In Our Time 1-34

WEEK 3

Jan 30 Seizing Our Bodies

AGriswold v. Connecticut@ (1965) in PACKET
Barbara Seaman The Doctors= Case Against the Pill (1969, 1995) extracts in PACKET
BWHBC Our Bodies Ourselves (1971) extracts in PACKET
Joanna Clark AMotherhood@ (1970) in PACKET
Interview with Mirtha Quintanales (1989) in PACKET
Lorraine Rothman AProcedures@ (1978) & Lolly Hirsch AReview@ (1976) in PACKET
Ellen Frankfort Vaginal Politics (1972) extract in PACKET

cont.

Interviews with Barbara, Seaman, Elana Seaman and Shira Seaman (1999) in PACKET
Morgen Into Our Own Hands, chp.s 1 & 2
Brownmiller In Our Time 35-58, 59-101

WEEK 4

** first short paper (5 pages) due Wednesday Feb 5 by 5 pm*

Feb 6 Yogurt, the Speculum and Feminist Health Activism

Interviews with Alice Wolfson & Belita Cowan (1999) in PACKET
Byllye Avery "Black Women=s Health: A Conspiracy of Silence@ (1989) in PACKET
AWomen and the Health System@ and AHalf of Brooklyn@ (1972) in PACKET
Julia Barfoot AFree Health for Women by Women@ (1973) in PACKET
AA Report from Women=s Community Health Center@ (1977) in PACKET
Gena Corea The Hidden Malpractice (1977) extracts in PACKET
Morgen Into Our Own Hands, chp. 3
Brownmiller In Our Time 167-193

WEEK 5

Feb 13 Abortion Before and After Roe v. Wade

Abortion statistics in PACKET
Whoopi Goldberg (2001) in PACKET
Jane Hodgson (1999) in PACKET
McCorvey with Meisler I Am Roe (1994) extracts in PACKET
Edward Pohlman AAbortion Dogmas Needing Research Scrutiny@ (1971) in PACKET
Beverly Padilla AChicanas and Abortion@ (1972) in PACKET
ARoe v. Wade@ & ADoe v. Bolton@ (1973) in PACKET
Hern & Andrikopoulous Abortion in the Seventies (1977) extracts in PACKET
Morgen Into Our Own Hands, chp. 4
Brownmiller In Our Time 102-135

WEEK 6

Feb 20 The Politics of Orgasm

Dana Densmore AOn Celibacy@ (1968) in PACKET
Susan Lyndon AThe Politics of Orgasm@ (1970) in PACKET
Anna Koedt AThe Myth of the Vaginal Orgasm@ (1970) in PACKET
BWHBC Our Bodies Ourselves (1971) extract in PACKET

cont.

Bette-Jane Raphael The Myth of the Male Orgasm & Input (1974) in PACKET
Barbach For Yourself (1975) extracts in PACKET
Marabel Morgan Total Joy (1976) extracts in PACKET
Marriage and Sex statistics in PACKET
Brownmiller In Our Time 194-258

WEEK 7

** second short paper (6-7 pages) due Wednesday Feb 26 by 5 pm*

Feb 27 The Lavender Menace

Martha Shelley Women of Lesbos (1971) in PACKET
Abbott & Love Is Women=s Liberation a Lesbian Plot? (1971) in PACKET
Radicalesbians Health Collective Lesbians and the Health Care System (1971) in
PACKET
Ann Shockley Meeting of the Sapphic Daughters (1987) in PACKET
Nina Sabaroff Lesbian Sexuality (1975) in PACKET
Karla Jay The Spirit is Liberationist But The Flesh Is... (1975) in PACKET
Alistair Cooke Proper Wedding (1978) in PACKET
Beverly Smith The Wedding (1979) in PACKET
Chrysyos I Don=t Understand Those Who Have Turned Away From Me (1981) in
PACKET

WEEK 8

Mar 6 Was Birth Control Genocide?

"Birth Control Pills and Black Children: The Sisters Reply" (1968) in PACKET
Toni Cade The Pill: Genocide or Liberation (1969) in PACKET
John Hudgins Is Birth Control Genocide? (1972) in PACKET
Hearings before the Senate Subcommittee on Health (1973) extract in PACKET
Dorothy Roberts Killing the Black Body (1997) extract in PACKET
Interviews with Helen Rodriguez-Trias & Charon Asetoyer (1999) in PACKET
Jane Lawrence Indian Health Service and the Sterilization of Native American Women
(2000) in PACKET
Thomas Littlewood Politics of Population Control (1977) extract in PACKET
Interviews with Helen Rodriguez-Trias & Laura Brainin-Rodriguez (1999) in PACKET
Morgen Into Our Own Hands, chp. 7

SPRING BREAK

WEEK 11

Mar 26 Pornography, Rape and Deep Throat

Susan Brownmiller Speaking Out on Prostitution & radio show Men and Violence (1971) in PACKET

Robin Morgan Theory and Practice: Pornography and Rape (1974) in PACKET

Andrea Dworkin The Rape Atrocity and the Boy Next Door (1975) extract in PACKET

Andrea Dworkin Pornography and Grief (1978) in PACKET

Laura Lederer Take Back the Night extract (1980) in PACKET

Ellen Willis Feminism, Moralism, and Pornography (1979) in PACKET

Ellen Willis Hard to Swallow: Deep Throat (1973) in PACKET

Linda Lovelace Ordeal (1981) extracts in PACKET

Linda Lovelace Out of Bondage (1986) extracts in PACKET

Joe Bob Briggs Linda=s Life (2002) in PACKET

David Allyn Make Love Not War (2000) extract in PACKET

Brownmiller In Our Time 244-325

WEEK 12

Apr 3 No Stirrups, No Knife: Spiritual Childbirth

BWHBC Our Bodies Ourselves (1971) extract in PACKET

Letty Pogrebin Motherhood (1973) in PACKET

Barbara Katz Rothman In Which a Sensible Woman Persuades Her Doctor (1976) in PACKET

Barbara Katz Rothman In Labor (1982) extracts in PACKET

Suzanne Arms Immaculate Deception (1975) extracts in PACKET

Ina May Gaskin Spiritual Midwifery (1975) extracts in PACKET

Diana Scully Men Who Control Women=s Health (1980) extracts in PACKET

WEEK 13

Apr 10 Why Would A Girl Go Into Medicine?

Statistics in PACKET

Sarah Spalver Some Day I=ll be a Doctor (1967) extract in PACKET

Margaret A. Campbell Why Would A Girl Go Into Medicine? (1973) extracts in PACKET

Vivian Gornick Why Radcliffe Women Are Afraid of Success (1973) in PACKET

Gena Corea The Hidden Malpractice (1977) extract in PACKET

cont.

Perry Garfinkel AAs Doctors on TV, Women Still Battle the Old Cliches@ (2002) in PACKET

AJulia@ (2002) in PACKET

Morgen Into Our Own Hands, chp.s 5 & 6

WEEK 14

Apr 17 Test-Tube Baby, Test-Tube Woman

Shulamith Firestone The Dialectic of Sex (1972) in PACKET

Jon Turney Frankenstein=s Footsteps (1998) extract in PACKET

Barbara Katz Rothman AThe Meanings of Choice in Reproductive Technology@ (1984) in PACKET

Renate Klein ADoing It Ourselves: Self Insemination@ (1989) in PACKET

Ruth Hubbard APersonal Courage Is Not Enough: Some Hazards of Childbearing in the 1980s@ (1989) in PACKET

Rayna Rapp AWomen=s Responses to Prenatal Diagnosis@ (1994) in PACKET

WEEK 15

Apr 24 The 1980s and Beyond

Ellen Hall AWho Gets Sick and Why?@ (1978) in PACKET

Anne Garland Women Activists (1988) extract in PACKET

Vivyan C. Adair ABranded with Infamy: Inscriptions of Poverty and Class@ (2002) in PACKET

Kathryn Morgan AWomen and the Knife@ (1991) in PACKET

Arditti, Klein & Minden Test-Tube Women (1989) extract in PACKET

Elizabeth Karlin AWe Called It Kindness@ (1998) in PACKET

Laurie Shrage AFrom Reproductive Rights to Reproductive Barbie@ (2002) in PACKET

Hallie Iglehart AUnnatural Divorce of Spirituality and Politics@ (1978) in PACKET

Andy Smith AFor All Who Were Indian in a Former Life@ (2001) in PACKET

Nadine Strossen Defending Pornography (1995) extract in PACKET

Andrea Dworkin Heartbreak (2002) extract in PACKET

Susan M. Reverby AFeminism & Health@ (2002) in PACKET

Morgen Into Our Own Hands, chp.s 8 & 9

*** Research paper due Friday May 2 at 5 pm**